

P21325.A02

A fashion, polyphenylene sulphone (PPSU), polyether sulphone (PES), polyetherimide (PEI), and polysulphone (PSU) are recommended. The first three mentioned high-performance polymers, which were not developed until most recently, exhibit water absorption characteristics (DIN 53495) of 1.10% for PPSU; 2.00% for PES and 1.25% for PEI and heat resistance (DIN 53461) of 214°C for PPSU; 214°C for PES and 200°C for PEI, which are superior to those of PSU, i.e., 0.8% for DIN 53495 and 181°C for DIN 53461.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows (Marked-up copies of the amended claims are attached as part of the Appendix):

A² 1. (Amended) A lamella positionable in a headbox of a web production machine, said lamella being formed of at least one high-performance polymer; and said at least one high-performance polymer comprising at least one of a water absorption (DIN 53495) and a heat resistance (DIN 53461) greater than that of polysulphone (PSU), thereby resulting in a lamella formed of a material having a high stability, high heat resistance, and good to very good resistance to at least one of alkaline solution and acid.

A³ 14. (Amended) The headbox in accordance with claim 1, wherein said high-performance polymer comprises at least one of polyphenylene sulphone (PPSU), polyether sulphone (PES), and polyetherimide (PEI).

A⁴ 17. (Amended) A lamella positionable in a headbox of a web production machine, said lamella being formed of at least one high-performance polymer comprising a

heat resistance (DIN 53461) of at least greater than 120°C, and said headbox comprising a nozzle, and

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said lamella includes a free end arranged to extend to a region of said nozzle,

wherein said free end comprises a structured end region with a dull lamella end having a height of more than about 0.5 mm.

26. (Amended) A headbox of a web production machine comprising:

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a lamella formed of at least one high-performance polymer having at least one of a water absorption (DIN 53495) and a heat resistance (DIN 53461) greater than that of polysulphone (PSU),

whereby said at least one high-performance polymer results in a lamella having high stability, high heat resistance, and good to very good resistance to at least one of alkaline solution and acid.

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40. (Amended) The headbox in accordance with claim 26, wherein said high-performance polymer comprises at least one of polyphenylene sulphone (PPSU), polyether sulphone (PES), and polyetherimide (PEI).

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43. (Amended) A headbox comprising:

a lamella formed of at least one high-performance polymer comprising a heat resistance (DIN 53461) of at least greater than 120°C;

a jet end, and

Still comprises PSU

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said lamella including a free end arranged to extend to a region of said jet end,
wherein said free end comprises a structured end region with a dull lamella end having
a height of more than about 0.5 mm.

Please enter the following new claims for consideration by the Examiner:

51. The lamella in accordance with claim 17, wherein said at least one high performance polymer comprises at least one of polyphenylene sulphone (PPSU), polyether sulphone (PES), polyetherimide (PEI), and polysulphone (PSU). ✓

52. The lamella in accordance with claim 43, wherein said at least one high performance polymer comprises at least one of polyphenylene sulphone (PPSU), polyether sulphone (PES), polyetherimide (PEI), and polysulphone (PSU).

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53. A lamella positionable in a headbox of a web production machine, said lamella being formed of at least one high-performance polymer; and

said at least one high-performance polymer comprising one of polyphenylene sulphone (PPSU), polyether sulphone (PES), and polyetherimide (PEI) having at least one of a water absorption (DIN 53495) and a heat resistance (DIN 53461) greater than that of polysulphone (PSU), thereby resulting in a lamella formed of a material having a high stability, high heat resistance, and good to very good resistance to at least one of alkaline solution and acid.

54. A headbox of a web production machine comprising: